



Matt Ehling  
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October 19, 2017

Commissioner Shawntera Hardy  
Data Practices Responsible Authority  
DEED Headquarters  
1st National Bank Building  
332 Minnesota Street  
Suite E200  
St. Paul, MN 55101

**VIA U.S. mail and electronic mail**

RE: Minnesota Government Data Practices Act request

Dear Commissioner Hardy,

This is a request under Minnesota Statutes Chapter 13, the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act. Through my request (the "Request"), I am seeking the following government data maintained by your agency:

1. Any and all data submitted by the State of Minnesota to AMAZON.COM.NVDC, Inc. ("Amazon") in response to Amazon's request for proposals ("RFP") related to a search for a new corporate headquarters;
2. Any and all data, including any RFPs, submitted by Amazon to the State of Minnesota between January 1, 2017 and October 19, 2017 that relate to Amazon's search for a new corporate headquarters;

In addition, I am seeking the following government data produced, maintained, transmitted, and/or received by your agency between September 1, 2017 and October 19, 2017:

3. Any and all correspondence (in written and/or electronic form) between staff of your agency and staff of Greater MSP regarding the State of Minnesota's response to Amazon's RFP related to a search for a new corporate headquarters.

Please note that any data responsive to Item 1 of the Request would not qualify for protection under Minn. Stat. § 13.37 as "trade secret" data, as the data was not supplied by a private party (an "affected individual or organization" in the language of the statute), but rather by a government entity to a private party (in this instance, Amazon).

Portions of data responsive to Item 2 of the Request constitute data "submitted to a government entity by a business requesting financial assistance or a benefit financed by public funds." Item 2 data is available to me, save for "financial information about the business, including credit reports; financial statements; net worth calculations; business plans; income and expense projections; balance sheets; customer lists; income tax returns; and design, market and feasibility studies not paid for with public funds," all of which is classified as "private or nonpublic" data at the present time, per Minn. Stat. § 13.591.

Please consider this letter to be a formal request for the indefinite retention of the requested data, pending resolution of the Request.

I am seeking to inspect responsive data prior to making a subsequent determination about copying data.

Per Minnesota Statutes 13.03, Subd. 3(f), I am requesting that in the event that any portion of the Request is not granted, that your agency certify in writing that the Request has been denied, and cite the specific statutory section, temporary classification, or other provision of law upon which the denial is based.

Please contact me to discuss the scope of data potentially responsive to Items 1 and 2 of the Request prior to the execution of your search for data. If you have any other questions, I can be reached at 651-556-1381, or via U.S. post.

Sincerely,

/s/Matt Ehling  
Executive Director  
Public Record Media